



The Iowa Afterschool Alliance (IAA) Newsletter is a monthly venue of information and updates on afterschool programs and policies.

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Update from the IAA Network Leads

Greetings! The Iowa Afterschool Alliance has been very busy in the month of January as we gear up for an exciting and busy 2010. Last week a team from the IAA traveled to the annual national meeting of all statewide afterschool networks to share ideas, learn from one another, and receive updates on the latest network activities taking place across the nation. In future editions of the newsletter, we will take time to highlight interesting data and implications for afterschool practice and policy. Along with that, we will be inviting those members of the IAA Advisory Board that attended the meeting to contribute guest articles that explore meaningful take-away messages from the meeting from their diverse perspectives.

One of the most thought-provoking sessions that the team attended was presented by Hedy Chang of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Ms. Chang explored the topic of chronic absence (missing ten percent or more of school over the course of an academic year) and its long-term implications on academic performance. Did you know that chronic absence in kindergarten is associated with lower academic performance in first grade for all children? In addition, 60 percent of the students that miss 20 percent or more of sixth grade will not graduate from high school. The data presented on this subject was just astounding. We encourage everyone to look more into this topic.

Of most importance to the network is how afterschool can play a part in impacting chronic absence and its effects. Ms. Chang was adamant that extended learning opportunities, including afterschool programs, absolutely can benefit the effort to impact student

achievement. Through student engagement in the out-of-school time hours, students are more likely to come to school, and come to school prepared. What's more, afterschool programs have the capacity to reach out to students and families and provide supplemental education of the importance of student attendance. High incidence of chronic absence suggests systemic challenges affecting the school or community; it only makes sense that out-of-school time staff will be important partners in addressing and finding remedies to these issues to create even better results for the children and youth in our communities. Good Luck in this courageous effort. For more information on this study, please visit <http://www.chronicabsence.net>.

Sincerely,

The Iowa Afterschool Alliance Team

Brooke Findley, Michelle Rich, Amelia Colwell, and Burke Milnes

Iowa's Race to the Top Application Submitted for First Round

During the middle of January, legislation was swiftly passed by the Iowa General Assembly to ensure Iowa's eligibility to apply for Race to the Top (RTTT) authorized under section 14006 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The RTTT fund was established in the amount of \$4.3 billion with the hope of utilizing the funds to leverage bold educational reforms on a national scale. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan's vision is to reward states that have raised student performance in the past and have the capacity to accelerate achievement gains with innovative reforms.

The funding will be granted on a competitive basis to select states that have laid out plans that most aggressively adopt educational reform, as determined by 300 readers around the nation. The four areas of reform established by the U.S. Department of Education are using college- and career-ready standards and assessments, building a workforce of highly effective educators, creating educational data systems to support student achievement, and turning around their lowest-performing schools.

The state legislation, [SF 2033](#) signed by the Governor on January 19, now implores school leaders to negotiate with unions to "overhaul" schools that have been identified as "persistently lowest-achieving." It also removes the limit on the number of charter schools permitted in Iowa. Charter schools have historically been exempt from many of the rules that their public counterparts must adhere to. The legislation will also direct more money into the Iowa Core Curriculum, which creates a framework for curriculum in core subjects such as math, science, and reading. Iowa's Race To The Top application was submitted shortly after the Governor Culver signed the legislation into law.

A key component of a state's RTTT application is to provide signatures of school board presidents across the state indicating support for the program and it appears many school districts throughout Iowa opted not to sign onto the initial Race to The Top application. State applications will be reviewed and accepted in rounds. A list of the Phase I winners will be released in April and states must submit their Phase II applications by June 1, 2010. Those whose applications are not chosen for funding during Phase I will receive their returned applications along with comments and suggestions for future rounds.



For more information on Iowa's Race to the Top application, please visit http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1910&Itemid=2616.



IAA and Iowa Public Television Provide Interactive Literacy Tools

On January 22, the IAA and Trista Peitzman of Iowa Public Television (IPTV) held an ICN Informational Session on literacy curriculum tools that align with many popular educational children shows broadcast on IPTV. These materials including an educator's guide providing activities and other literacy resources, are available to educators and before and afterschool programs free of charge. Trista Peitzman led the discussion and presented on a number of online interactive activities and exercises that are proven to aid struggling readers in enhancing their reading skills.

Much of the discussion centered on how the right approach will motivate and inspire kids to expand their vocabulary and help them to discover that reading can be fun. Many of the videos and activities incorporate music into literacy development, which seems to tap positive emotions, utilize repetition, and reinforce learning.

For more information on these literacy resources visit www.pbskids.org or www.pbskidsisland.org. Professional development opportunities can also be found at www.pbskids.org. Another excellent resource mentioned is www.iptv.org/iowapathways/, a site dedicated to Iowa history designed to foster literacy development in older youth. Future ICN sessions are being planned that will focus on more in depth discussions on how to utilize these resources as well as how to incorporate literacy development into Afterschool programs and summer camps.

Contact Trista at trista@iptv.org or call at (800) 532-1290.

The Youth, Education and Families Institute Gang Prevention Resources

The Youth, Education, and Families Institute has published a new toolkit entitled "Preventing Gang Violence and Building Communities Where Young People Thrive". The toolkit draws upon discoveries made over the past three years by the California Gang Prevention Network, a thirteen city network working to identify strategies for reducing gang violence and victimization. The kit highlights a wide range of city practices and contains information on marshalling resources to fund anti-gang strategies, forming strategic partnerships within your community, and provides targeted approaches including using street outreach workers to intervene with high-risk youth and facilitating the reentry of youth and adults from detention facilities.

Download the toolkit at www.nlc.org/ASSETS/A2179E500B6D4A4896A23874CFBA013B/IYEF_CCGPN_Toolkit_01-10.pdf

Order a print copy at www.surveymonkey.com/s/8DBCPHR

Visit the California Cities Gang Prevention Network site at www.ccgpn.org/

IAA is on Facebook

We want to encourage you to check out IAA's Facebook page. Through our page, you can find the latest information and updates regarding IAA and its activities, as well as links to relevant resources and funding opportunities. The page is also a great tool for staying connected with colleagues around the state and keeping current on the latest Afterschool Developments. To search for the IAA page, just type the Iowa Afterschool Alliance in the search box at www.facebook.com. However, please continue to visit the IAA website for the listing of all resources at www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org



IAA Legislative Update

January 28, 2010

The 2010 legislative session has been underway for three weeks, and legislators have wasted no time in passing legislation. Given the shortening of the session from 100 to 80 days, legislators will be hurrying to pass legislation before their target adjournment date of March 31. The funnel dates have also been moved up in the calendar year, with February 12 being the first funnel (the final date for bills to be reported out of their respective chamber committees) and March 5 being the second funnel (the final date for bills to be reported out of one chamber and the opposite chamber committee). In the first week, legislation ([SF 2033](#)) was passed and signed by the Governor to enable the state to apply for federal Race to the Top funding. For more on this legislation, see the separate newsletter article on Race to the Top.

On January 27, the Governor released his budget recommendations. He proposed a FY 2011 General Fund budget of \$5.321 billion, which is \$64 million less than the FY 2007 General Fund budget of \$5.385 billion. For education funding from the General Fund, Governor Culver proposed increasing funding from FY 2010 levels by 8.9%, from \$2.986 to \$3.232 billion. He recommended an additional \$5.8 million for quality preschool programs, \$2.4 billion for K-12 education, which includes a 2 percent allowable growth, and an additional \$36.4 million for community colleges, in order to meet federal requirements to receive federal stimulus money.

This year, legislators have undertaken efforts to cut state spending due to decreased revenues, in addition to the Governor's across-the-board cuts. Among the suggestions put forward by the State Government Reorganization Committee are recommendations to offer state employees early retirement incentives, increase supervisory ratios, eliminate certain boards and commissions, consolidate purchasing and technology systems within state government, and the closure of the state Mental Health Institute in Mount Pleasant, in addition to others.

In Governor Culver's Condition of the State address on January 12, he encouraged legislators to quickly pass legislation that would allow the state to apply for federal Race to the Top funding, in order to contribute to education reform efforts. Other themes included the Governor's I-JOBS initiative to fund investments in infrastructure and his mention of the need to create jobs and maintain funding that allows workers to seek job training and workforce supports.

Below is a list of bills related to afterschool and education, with links to the bill language, status of each bill, and a brief description. Bills of particular interest to IAA members include Race to the Top legislation and a bill to allow before and after school programs to use school buildings during non-school hours.



State Afterschool and Education Related Bills

Attendance Centers; Lowest Performing Schools [HF2188](#)

Referred to Education.

An Act relating to requirements for certain school districts implementing interventions for attendance centers identified as persistently lowest achieving schools.

School Districts; Prioritized Resources; School Day Extension [HF2189](#)

Referred to Education.

An Act directing school districts to prioritize resources in order to meet the goal of increasing the minimum days or hours of instructional time offered in a school year.

Textbooks and Technology; Accredited Public Schools [HF2190](#)

Referred to Education.

An Act relating to textbooks and applicable instructional technology adopted for use by school districts and provided to public and accredited nonpublic school students.

Area Education Agencies Task Force [HSB658](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Wendt, Ficken, and Chambers).

An Act establishing a task force to review the present mission, structure, governance, and funding of the area education agencies.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Council [SSB3156](#)

In Judiciary. Assigned to Subcommittee (Kreiman, Hogg, and Ward).

An Act relating to the criminal and juvenile justice planning advisory council, establishing a public safety advisory board, and providing for implementation.

[HSB649](#) is a similar bill.

In Judiciary: Assigned to Subcommittee (Swaim, Ford, and Heaton).

Schools; Foundation Property Taxes [SF2140](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Heckroth, Dvorsky, and Hamerlinck).

An Act relating to school finance by increasing the foundation property tax, increasing the regular program and special education support services foundation base, and including effective date and applicability provisions.

Department of Education and Local School Boards; Special Duties [SSB3135](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Schmitz, Kreiman, and Johnson).

An Act relating to special education rights and duties and to the related duties and operations of the department of education and local school boards.

Vision Screenings for Students [HSB673](#)

An Act providing for vision screenings for certain students and including applicability provisions.

**21st Century Task Force [SF2136](#)**

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Quirmbach, Dvorsky, and Feenstra).

An Act relating to the establishment of a 21st century school system task force.

Foreign Language and American Sign Language Core Curriculum [SF2116](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Beall, Hamerlinck, and Schoenjahn).

This bill requires the state board of education to adopt rules that include in the Iowa core curriculum for kindergarten through grade eight, foreign language and American sign language.

School Tuition Tax Credit; Accredited Private and Charter Schools [SF2124](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Dvorsky, McKinley, and Quirmbach).

This bill provides a school tuition credit for pupils attending accredited nonpublic schools.

Attendance Centers; Enrichment, Cultural, and Recreational Activities [HF511](#)

In Education. Assigned to subcommittee (Ford, Palmer, and Schulte).

An Act allowing school districts to utilize attendance centers to provide academic, enrichment, cultural, or recreational activities to children during non-instructional hours.

School District Financial Mandates Suspension [SF2104](#)

In Education. Assigned to subcommittee (Quirmbach, Dvorsky, and McKinley).

This bill suspends several program and financial mandates and restrictions for school districts for any school budget year commencing during the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2012.

School Foundation Levy Tax [SSB3125](#)

In Way and Means. Assigned to subcommittee (Hogg, Stewart, Feenstra).

This bill provides that the \$5.40 school foundation levy shall not be divided for urban renewal purposes for urban renewal plans adopted on or after the effective date of the bill. Under the bill, such taxes shall instead be paid to the school district.

Department of Education; Local School Boards [SSB3136](#)

Referred to Education. Assigned to subcommittee (Wilhelm, Soddors, and Hamerlinck).

An Act making numerous changes relating to the duties and operations of the department of education and local school boards.

[HSB623](#) is a similar bill.

Introduced. Assigned to subcommittee (Kelley, Palmer, and Forristall).

School District Accreditation Process [SSB3137](#)

Referred to Education. Assigned to subcommittee (Schoenjahn, Soddors, Hamerlinck).

Relates to the de-accreditation process for a school district by the state board of education.

[HSB625](#) is a similar bill.

Referred to Education. Assigned to subcommittee (Wendt, Ficken, and Dolecheck).

Early Childhood Iowa Initiative [SSB3139](#)

Referred to Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Schmitz, Appel, Boettger).

This bill relates to the state and local system for early care by replacing the community empowerment initiative administered for state purposes through the department of management with the early childhood Iowa initiative administered through the department of education.

Core Curriculum Implementation Dates [HF2140](#)

In Education. Assigned to subcommittee (Cohoon, Sweeney, and Wendt).

An Act relating to core curriculum plan and implementation dates established for school districts and accredited nonpublic schools and including effective date provisions.

Private Schools; Accreditation and Standards [HSB622](#)

In Education, Assigned to Subcommittee (Wendt, Thede, and Koester).

This bill restricts the state board of education from adding to the special accredited list of college preparatory schools after the effective date of the bill.

[SSB3138](#) is a similar bill.

In Education, Assigned to Subcommittee (Beall, Wilhelm, and Feenstra).

School District Boundaries Reorganization Workgroup [SF2066](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Dvorsky, Beall, and McKinley).

An Act providing for the establishment of a school district reorganization workgroup to redraw school district boundaries following the 2010 federal decennial census.

Advance Learners Acceleration Policy [SF2064](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Wilhelm, Boettger, and Schmitz).

An Act relating to the development and adoption of a student acceleration policy for advanced learners.

High School Graduation; Statewide Exit Examination [HF2070](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Cohoon, May, and Wendt).

Requires the development and administration of a statewide comprehensive exit examination as condition of high school graduation.

Charters School Development [HF2085](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Steckman, Abdul-Samad, and Tymeson).

Authorizes the state board of education to approve applications for the establishment, by individuals or entities, of junior or senior high charter schools or charter magnet schools. Allows the board to evaluate the performance of charters schools based on the goals they set forth.

Special Education Pupils; Senior Plus Program [HSB600](#)

Introduced. Assigned to Subcommittee (Winckler Chair, Ford, and Sweeney).

Would allow special education pupils to qualify for supplementary weighting in the senior year plus program.

**Childcare Pilot Project** [SF414](#)

Re-Introduced. Last action 2009, Referred to Human Resources.

This bill provides for a pilot project supporting high quality childcare for low-income children under the state child care assistance program in Code section 237A.13.

The state childcare assistance program is funded through a federal block grant and state funds.

Childcare Provider's Criminal History Checks [HF2056](#)

Introduced. Referred to Human Services. Assigned to Subcommittee (Mascher, Baudler, and Berry).

The bill replaces a requirement for repeating the national criminal check requirement every four years for licensed child care providers, with an authorization for the department of human services to adopt rules specifying criteria in the public interest for requiring the national check of a person to be repeated.

Childcare Providers; Relatives and Friends [HF2069](#)

Referred to Human Resources. Assigned to Subcommittee (Mascher, Hunter, and Koester).

This bill amends Code section 237A.3, relating to child care homes, to authorize a person providing child care to only related children, a person providing before or after school child care without charge to only children of friends or neighbors, or a person providing child care to only children from an unrelated family to provide the child care as a child care home provider. Under current law, childcare home providers are limited to persons who provide childcare to five children or fewer at any one time and are not required to register with the department of human services. The bill also amends the term "child care home" in Code section 237A.1 to eliminate language referring to the restriction on the number of children.

[SF2084](#) is a similar bill.

In Human Resources. Subcommittee assigned (Bolkcom, Bartz, and Hatch).

Definition of Textbooks; Expansion; Electronic Devices [SF2058](#)

In Education. Assigned to Subcommittee (Heckroth, Feenstra, and Schoenjahn).

This bill relates to the use of state funds allocated to school districts for purposes of making textbooks available to accredited nonpublic school pupils by expanding the definition of textbooks to include laptop computers or other portable personal computing devices which are used for nonreligious instructional use only. Currently, the definition is limited to books, supplementary instructional materials, and electronic text books, including but not limited to computer software.

Charter Schools Improvement; Innovation Zones [SF 2033](#) (formerly [SSB 3031](#))

Passed Senate. Passed House. Signed by Governor.

An Act relating to school improvement and the approval and revocation of charter schools, the establishment of innovation zone schools by consortia of school districts and area education agencies, and the implementation of interventions for persistently low achieving schools. Removes the limit for the number of charters schools permitted in the state as well as the charter school repeal date of July 1, 2011. Requires school leaders to negotiate with unions to over hall failing schools.



[HF2033](#) (formerly [HSB 527](#)) is a similar bill.

Placed on calendar. Substituted SF 2033. Withdrawn.

School Budget Review Committee [HF2030](#)

Passed House. Passed Senate. Signed by Governor.

Modifies the membership of the school budget review committee and the committee's duties relating to school district unusual financial circumstances.

State Percent Growth Delay [SF2045](#) (formerly [SSB3043](#))

Passed Senate. Passed House. Signed by Governor.

This bill delays establishing the state percent of growth, also known as allowable growth, for the budget year beginning July 1, 2011, from the 2010 Legislative Session to the 2011 Legislative Session. The bill is effective upon enactment.

[HF2032](#) (formerly [HSB531](#)) is a similar bill.

Substituted [SF2045](#). Withdrawn.

Categorical State Percent of Growth Delay [SF2046](#) (formerly [SSB3033](#))

Passed Senate. Passed House. Signed by Governor.

Delays establishing the categorical state percent of growth, also known as categorical allowable growth, for purposes of the state school foundation program for the budget year beginning July 1, 2011, from the 2010 Legislative Session to the 2011 Legislative Session. This bill is effective upon enactment.

[HF2031](#) (formerly [HSB526](#)) is a similar bill.

Substituted [SF2046](#). Withdrawn.

Upcoming Events & Professional Development

Impact After School Training Series Communications Institute

There is still space available for the upcoming Communications Institute workshops being conducted by State Public Policy Group. Workshops will be held at the Courtyard Marriott in Ankeny from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the following dates:

- » Tuesday, February 23, 2010, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm; *The Importance of Networking*
- » Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm; *Promotion of Afterschool to Stakeholder Sectors*
- » Wednesday, April 14, 2010, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm; *Strategic Communications and Action Plan Development*
- » May ICN Session TBD; *Action Plan Implementation Discussion and Technical Assistance*

Registration Fee: \$72.00 per attendee (This is a one-time fee for all sessions and includes food and beverage, as well as any materials required for the training.) Please contact Michelle Rich at mrich@sppg.com or 515-243-2000 for more information and to register.



Reconnecting Children With Nature and Global Youth Service Day

As part of the Iowa "Reconnecting Children With Nature" effort, Next Step Incorporated has been working with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to plan an Iowa Outdoor Summit where young people will come together to help solve the problem of "nature deficit disorder." The DNR will host the event April 10 and 11 at [Springbrook Education Center](#). The event will be held in connection with Global Youth Service Day (GYSD), sponsored by the [Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service](#).

The goal is to get 25 teams of 1-2 adults (over 25) and 2-3 youth (under 25; middle, high school and college age) to attend. Next Step and DNR want to work with this group to develop local and state-wide plans for reconnecting kids with the out of doors. The Summit will consist of a one-day learning/planning session on April 10 and an optional second day for fun outdoor activities. Another goal will be to help groups plan service projects for GYSD April 25-28. Please email bmilnes@sppg.com for more information on the registration process.

Two-Day Grant Writing Workshop

DMACC is holding a grant-writing workshop on February 23 and 24 appropriate for all skill levels. It includes the research and development process from basic grant terminology to effectively preparing for any grant writing project. Day One starts with fund development basics and moves to generating a basic grant proposal. Common components of grant applications are discussed; you will work with grant applications, and learn how to interpret Requests for Proposal (RFPs). Day Two includes advanced grant writing techniques, discovering how federal grants are scored, and a mock review to learn what reviewers look for in quality proposals.

- » Tuesday & Wednesday, February 23 & 24, 2010 ,8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Course Registration #25433
 - Payment and advanced registration due by February 17
 - Cost: \$159.00

This class will be held at DMACC Ankeny Campus,
Building 7 Conference Center, Oak Room
To enroll call 515-964-6800 or 800-342-0033

Askable Adult Training

If you work with youth, you will want to attend the Askable Adult training. This training will remind you of things you already know and give you some new insights on how to remain or become an askable adult that young people trust with important questions and conversations.

Several youth serving community partners developed the training as a tool for them and their staff to feel comfortable when young people come to them with important questions and conversation.

The training is provided at no cost through an Iowa Department of Human Services Community Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Grant. It will be held on February 11th (1-3 p.m.) taught by partners in this community grant.



Please register at www.ppheartland.org/training so materials will be ready for you.

Youth, Education, and Families Institute Launches Mayors' Institute on Children and Families

On Dec. 10-11, 2009, the YEF Institute, in collaboration with the Seattle-based Institute for Community Change (led by former Seattle Mayor Charles Royer) and the Chapin Hall policy and research center at the University of Chicago, sponsored the first pilot session of the *Mayors' Institute on Children and Families*, a new way of providing practical help and advice to municipal leaders. Building on the model of the highly successful Mayors' Institute on City Design, these two-day sessions prepare mayors to be the leading advocates for children and families in their cities.

The sessions engage a group of 2-3 mayors who each present a carefully prepared case statement of a local problem or challenge. Presentations are followed by extensive discussions with other mayors, their senior advisors and national experts, academics and practitioners, who help identify potential solutions. Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper and St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay participated in the inaugural Mayors' Institute session in Chicago, focusing on the first goal of the Mayors' Action Challenge for Children and Families - providing children with "opportunities to learn and grow." The second pilot session is planned for the spring of 2010. For more information, contact Julie Bosland at (202) 626-3144 or bosland@nlc.org.

Leadership in Family Empowerment and Youth Leadership Awards

Each year, applications for two statewide awards are solicited by the Risky Business Conference Steering Committee. These awards are presented during the opening plenary session of the Risky Business Conference. This year, the recipients will be acknowledged and recognized on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at Iowa State University.

The Margaret Hess LIFE (Leadership in Family Empowerment) Award is presented to an Iowa adult who has consistently provided outstanding service to Iowa families, demonstrated a history of family advocacy, displayed leadership, courage, and compassion for children and their families, shown respect for the diversity that typifies today's family, donated volunteer time and/or money to improve services to children and families.

The Youth Leadership Award is presented to an Iowa youth (ages 14-18) who has consistently participated in youth/adult partnerships, demonstrated positive peer role modeling, communicated effectively, participated in service to their community, spoken on behalf of youth, and served in a leadership role in their school and/or community.

A \$500 monetary gift accompanies the Youth Leadership Award.

Nomination forms may be downloaded at <http://www.yss.ames.ia.us/riskybusiness/>

[awards.html](#). The deadline to submit nomination forms is March 15.

Please post or forward this award notice to others on your contact list – especially to persons who might be in the position to identify and nominate persons who deserve to be acknowledged for their advocacy, leadership, and service in your community.



Funding Opportunities

Federal Funding For Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs

The Office of Adolescent Health within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will soon announce the availability of competitive grants to a broad range of public and private entities for effective and promising teen pregnancy prevention programs. This important initiative will provide \$75 million for replicating programs that have been shown through rigorous evaluation to have positive effects on teens' behavior, and \$25 million for research and demonstration on promising programs. Visit www.thenationalcampaign.org/federal/funding/default.aspx for the latest available information on these opportunities.

Youth Service America and Miley Cyrus “Get Ur Good On” Grants

Youth Service America and Miley Cyrus are partnering to sponsor “Get Ur Good On” grants for youth-led community projects on Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25. One hundred \$500 grants will be awarded for projects that address poverty, education, environmental sustainability, or other community needs. The “Get Ur Good On” social network has ideas for projects, and allows youth to upload video and pictures of themselves serving their community. The deadline is February 22. For more information, visit <http://ysa.org/grants/programs/get-ur-good-grants> or www.geturgoodon.org/.

Reminder

As we continue our work in promoting afterschool programs, below are words from a famous American to remind us why we do the work we do.

“A child is a person who is going to carry on whatever you have started. He is going to sit where you are sitting and when you are gone, attend to those things which you think are important. You may adopt all the policies you please, but how they will be carried out depends on him. He will assume control of your cities, states, and nations. He is going to move in and take over your churches, schools, universities, and corporations. Your books are going to be judged, accepted, or condemned by him. The fate of humanity is in his hands. So it might be well to pay him some attention.”

- Abraham Lincoln